



*Forming Faithful Stewards,
Caring for Sacred Waters*

501 Sixth Street
Annapolis, Maryland 21403

July 20, 2017

Senator Ben Cardin
509 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: Bipartisan Support for Sportsman's Bill

Dear Sen. Cardin -

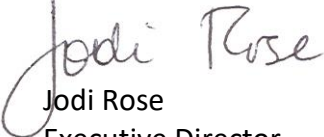
I just wanted to drop you a note to say thank you for your bipartisan work on the Sportsman Bill that reauthorized funding for Chesapeake Bay work, particularly the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF).

As an organization that is currently implementing a grant from NFWF, we can tell you first-hand how important this funding is for engaging citizens in cleanup of their watersheds. We work with faith leaders and their congregations throughout Maryland and are currently building a cohort of faithful stewards in the Jones Falls watershed of Baltimore. We call the Jones Falls pilot "One Water Partnership", and already, 15 congregations have signed up for the program and are digging deep in their communities to find ways to help restore their watershed.

The beautiful thing about the One Water Partnership is that it brings together diverse congregations – urban/suburban, black/white, Christian/Jew/Muslim, affluent/marginalized – around a unified goal of restoring healing to the Jones Falls. IPC relies on this funding to engage people -- on both sides of the aisle -- in being good stewards of water resources that we must all share with each other.

Thank you for modeling bipartisan cooperation!

Sincerely,


Jodi Rose
Executive Director